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R.A. Williamson
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G.M. Calhoun
M.W. Walker - File

Ilion, New York November 9, 1959

D. E. MILLER

MODRLS 721-722-725 - ACCURACY TESTING DEVICE

The need for replacing the above accuracy testing device has been discussed for some little time now. I believe it is generally agreed that the present device can be misleading as to results, and after continued use now for about 10 years, there are some of the basic moving parts that are pretty well worn out. In addition to the above there is question as to limitations in clearances that can cause a problem in the event of any changes in the form or shape of the stocks. The entire replacement of the unit has been considered to be of major proportions.

Within the past year M.H. Walker has had opportunity of seeing a similar accuracy testing device at the Springfield Armory, and in addition a relatively more simple shooting jack was perfected for the M/40X Rifle. I understand that the Springfield jack provides for the dashpot in combination with the air return as was originally devised for the unit we have here.

We have a proposal from M.H. Walker to undertake the job of designing and building a new jack to replace the old one, and incorporating simplification and improvements which have been noted within the past few years. Believe that the cost for the work would be less than for the original jack, and if decided to proceed we can very well have the manpower for the engineering design available within the next several months. However, if delayed into the coming year it is likely this may not be the case.

It would seem to me to be a good idea to authorize Walker to proceed on a work order to a point sufficient to presenting more complete proposal together with sufficiently accurate estimates of cost to be used for project purposes.

If interested, we will be glad to work with you on this.

SMA:T

S. M. Alvis, Manager Ilion Research Division